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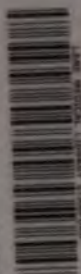
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Jackson, Samuel.

A discourse commemorative of the
late William E. Horner, M.D. ...
1853.

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A DISCOURSE

COMMEMORATIVE OF THE LATE

WILLIAM E. HORNER, M. D.,

PROFESSOR OF ANATOMY.

DELIVERED BEFORE THE

Faculty and Students of the University of Pennsylvania,

October 10, 1853.

BY

SAMUEL JACKSON, M. D.,

PROFESSOR OF THE INSTITUTES OF MEDICINE.

~~~~~  
PUBLISHED BY THE CLASS.  
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УНАЯДИ ОРОТНАТЗ

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA,

October 19, 1853.

A MEETING of the Class was held for the purpose of requesting for publication the Introductory Lectures of the Professors. Robert Stewart being called to the Chair, and Mr. R. R. Porter, of Tennessee, being appointed Secretary, a Committee was appointed to carry out the intention of the meeting, consisting of one from each State or Province, as follows:—

THOS. S. EASTON,	<i>Alabama.</i>	JOHN BELL,	<i>New Hampshire.</i>
JOHN T. RUSSELL,	<i>Arkansas.</i>	S. B. HOWELL,	<i>New Jersey.</i>
FRANKLIN VAUGHN,	<i>Delaware.</i>	ALFRED GRYNES,	<i>New York.</i>
C. E. BELLAMY,	<i>Georgia.</i>	S. B. MORISEY,	<i>North Carolina.</i>
S. TEST,	<i>Indiana.</i>	B. C. LUDLOW,	<i>Ohio.</i>
E. W. WOODSON,	<i>Kentucky.</i>	J. CHESTON MORRIS,	<i>Pennsylvania.</i>
THOMAS KEARNEY,	<i>Louisiana.</i>	F. P. LEVERETT,	<i>South Carolina.</i>
GEORGE JOHNSON,	<i>Maryland.</i>	G. B. SMITH,	<i>Tennessee.</i>
JAMES BUDLEY,	<i>Massachusetts.</i>	T. H. HOLLIS,	<i>Texas.</i>
J. R. HILL,	<i>Mississippi.</i>	JOHN B. BRITTON,	<i>Virginia.</i>
F. BATES, M. D.	<i>Missouri.</i>	JAMES J. EASTMAN,	<i>Wisconsin.</i>
H. J. PRIESTLY,	<i>New Brunswick.</i>		

CORRESPONDENCE.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA,

October 20, 1853.

DEAR SIR: The undersigned, a Special Committee to whom the duty has been delegated of requesting for publication a copy of your able and eloquent Eulogy upon the Life and Character of our late lamented Professor, William E. Horner—while communicating the wish of the Class, desire at the same time to add our personal solicitation that you will accede to the request. A compliance with the wish expressed through us will be not only a manifestation of your kindness to us, but a gratification to the relatives and friends of him whose merits have been commemorated by you.

With high esteem, we remain your obedient servants,

ROBERT STEWART,
J. R. HILL,
J. CHESTON MORRIS,
T. S. EASTON,
G. JOHNSON,
B. C. LUDLOW.

To SAMUEL JACKSON, M.D.

PHILADELPHIA, October 21, 1853.

GENTLEMEN: It is with pleasure I comply with the request of the Medical Class, communicated to me in your note of this date.

I am gratified by this action of the Class: not because it may be regarded as an expression of a favorable opinion of my inadequate performance, but, that the life and character of my late estimable friend and colleague, offer to the student an admirable example of what industry, application and adherence to duty can effect, and a strong inducement, under the difficulties and depressions that must be encountered by most, to persevere in a conscientious and honorable course of conduct.

Accept my acknowledgment for the courteous manner in which you have conveyed to me the desires of the Class; and believe me to be very sincerely and truly,

Your obedient servant,

SAMUEL JACKSON, M. D.

To Messrs. ROBERT STEWART, J. R. HILL, J. CHESTON MORRIS, T. S. EASTON, G. JOHNSON, and B. C. LUDLOW.

A DISCOURSE.

ANOTHER year has passed: to-day is the annual opening of the courses of medical instruction in this Institution. We are assembled for that ceremonial; but I shall not address you, as on former occasions, on matters in connection with my chair. Another topic claims attention, not altogether inappropriate, and I hope will prove neither uninteresting nor unprofitable.

As the last session drew to a close, Professor W. E. Horner was unable to complete his course, from increasing disability produced by serious organic disease, from which he had long been a sufferer; and, in the ensuing month of May, closed his useful and highly successful life under a complication of disease. For nearly forty years that he was connected with the school as assistant or professor, he was not once absent on an occasion like the present. To-day we miss him from his "accustomed seat;" we look for the long familiar face and form; they have disappeared from among men—vanished into impenetrable gloom and void. His voice, that at a time like the present, each successive year, greeted the class with hearty salutation, warned the inexperience of youth, or exhorted to zealous and industrious application, is stilled in the silence of the grave! "He has been gathered to his fathers"—his work is finished; the mission he was destined to in this world is ended; he has gone to the great account which each one must render to his Creator!

From the great antiquity of the custom, it would appear that there is implanted in man's moral nature an innate desire to perpetuate the memory of the departed dead by varied monumental memorials; to celebrate their virtues, and to record those traits of character and qualities which gave them distinction, which won for them confidence, respect, and consideration while living.

The Medical Faculty, immediately after the death of our late

colleague, deputed to me the office of preparing a tribute to his memory, for the opening discourse of this session. I could have wished it had fallen to one of more graceful elocution, and higher qualifications for its performance.

The death of Doctor Horner was followed in a few weeks by that of Doctor Nathaniel Chapman, Emeritus Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine in this school. It is true that the University had been deprived for some years of the valuable labors of Professor Chapman. It is seen by daily experience that, in the ordinance of Providence, we may be struck with premature decay while yet in the maturity of manhood and the vigor of our powers. It is a sad reflection to know that we are subject to this afflicting liability. It is one of the saddest aspects of humanity, when we behold the brilliancy of genius and the light of knowledge obscured in this dark eclipse, and the usefulness of life ceasing before its close.

The death of Professor Chapman did not fall like a stunning blow, as it would have done in the palmy days of his professional reputation, and the height of his professional fame; yet it left deeply mournful impressions. His important services rendered to this school; the brilliancy of his social qualities; his great professional eminence as a teacher; his discriminating tact, clearness of perception, and solid judgment as a practitioner; his generous and disinterested spirit; his purity of character, free of tainted thought—of whatever partook of the disingenuous, mean, or sordid; his admirable example, that imparted to the profession of our city its elevated and dignified tone—and the courtesies of its intercourse, are yet fresh in recollection, and cannot be recalled without profound regret that he, around whom they clustered as a part of his being, is no more, and they must all die with him!

A tribute is due to his memory—but who is there to undertake it? Few are qualified for the task of delineating the beautiful harmony and blending of the varied elements of his nature, his gifted intellect and acquirements, and the achievements he accomplished in the field of his action. In him were combined the eloquence of the forum, with the clearness and precision of scientific prelection. He reinstated the teachings of practical medicine in the scientific form and systematic arrangement, established by twenty centuries of observation and experience, in the place of hypothetical generalities incapable of application to the innumerable specialties of details comprised in the practice of medicine.

The animation of his genial spirits; his ever-sparkling wit; his kind, frank, and open demeanor, shone out of him as a light that spread gayety in the social circle, dissipated the gloom of the sick-room, poured into the desponding and fainting heart the inspiration of hope, dispelling its fears and reinvigorating its energies more potently than any cordial of therapeutics.

The life of Doctor Horner, though devoid of the brilliancy and high adornments of his illustrious friend and colleague, is, notwithstanding, an instructive lesson to the student, and a most encouraging example to the young aspirant involved in the first difficulties and embarrassments that beset the opening of his career.

He came to this city, like many of you, without friends—it may be said without acquaintances, among its inhabitants. He selected it as the place of his permanent residence, and the field of his professional exertions, almost unknown, with very limited means, and in which he had to contend with a large body of able competitors and rivals. Notwithstanding these disadvantages he was peculiarly successful. He acquired friends, gained the esteem and confidence of the eminent and influential, secured a prominent social and professional standing, and was happy in forming a most estimable alliance. He attained the highest position in the department of science he especially cultivated, and died mourned by a large family and circle of relatives, regretted by a host of friends, leaving a handsome fortune, the fruits of his industry, economy, and professional labors.

There are individuals so constituted by nature as to be predestined to success and eminence. They are so highly gifted with intellectual, moral, and physical powers, that, with common prudence, failure is nearly an impossibility. They are moulded in a giant's proportions, and possess a giant's strength. They have but to put forth their power, and their object is accomplished. We look up to such with admiration, reverence, and awe. All acknowledge their superiority, yield to them the palm, but despair to imitate them. They have been called "model men," though it appears to me erroneously, for they are inimitable. Doctor Horner did not belong to this class. He was like ourselves; he stood on our level. There are few of you, gentlemen, who are not endowed with equal abilities, and who might not fairly put in a claim, with similar opportunities, to an equally successful career.

While the natural endowments of Doctor Horner were not of an exalted order, neither was he indebted to a systematic, well-trained

collegiate course of studies, or grounded in the higher branches of education, that, with many, compensate for natural deficiencies. He was a self-made man. What he was, was wholly his own ; the work of a rigid self-training, and a most labored moulding and framing of his principles and character, on a high conception of duty, and of the just and true, in every transaction of life. Doctor Horner was truly in these respects a "model man." His life and example are worthy to be held up for imitation, and are within the capacity of most to copy. It becomes, therefore, a useful and interesting matter to know the shackles that embarrassed his efforts and impeded his progress; to investigate the sources of the success that crowned his actions, and placed him in an enviable position, that others, under similar difficulties, may profit by an example of so much encouragement.

Doctor Horner was a native of Virginia, a State that has contributed largely to the medical capital, character and eminence of this city. He was born at Warrenton, Fauquier County, on the 3d of June, 1793. His parentage was highly respectable. His grandfather, Mr. Robert Horner, emigrated from England before the Revolution. He had visited the colonies previously as an agent of his brother on a commercial adventure. From the advantages presented to him he was induced to return, and to make it his permanent home. He settled in Charles County, Maryland, whence, in an after-time of life, he removed to Prince William, Virginia. Soon after his arrival, he married Mrs. Samuel Claggett, widow of the Rev. Samuel Claggett, a minister of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and father of Bishop Claggett, of the Maryland diocese. On his mother's side, he belonged to a medical lineage. This lady was the daughter of Doctor Gustavus Brown, a Scotch physician, who acquired great professional reputation and accumulated a handsome fortune, which he invested in real estate in Scotland. In consequence of this step, on his death this property passed, by the Scotch law of entail, to his heir-at-law. The elder son, Doctor Gustavus Brown, received a medical education in Edinburgh. He settled at Port Tobacco, Maryland. He was highly esteemed, not only as a physician, but as an educated gentleman. For a time, he occupied the post of Physician-General in the war of the Revolution. He enjoyed the respect and esteem of General Washington, and was called in as consulting physician at the close of the malady which proved fatal to the father of his country, and plunged all America in the deepest gloom.

The second son of Doctor G. Brown was a minister of the Episcopal Church, and was father of Doctor William Brown, of Fairfax, Virginia, a physician who rose to professional eminence, and who also held the position of Physician or Surgeon-General in the army of the Revolution.

Samuel Claggett, the only son of Mrs. Horner by her first husband, also belonged to the medical profession. He also served as an assistant surgeon, either in the Maryland or Continental forces, until the close of the Revolution.

The uncle of Dr. Horner, Dr. Gustavus B. Horner, belonged also to the medical profession. He was attached to the medical staff of the army, in the hospital department, under Dr. James Tilton, until the achievement of independence.

He subsequently settled in Warrenton, where he pursued his profession with great success.

The father of Dr. Horner was brought up to the mercantile profession, in the counting-house of Mr. William Hartshorne, of Alexandria, father of the late Dr. Joseph Hartshorne, of this city. He subsequently had charge of a large mercantile establishment on the Potomac, and finally settled in Warrenton.

His mother was the daughter of Mr. William Edwards and Elizabeth Blackwell, and through her, in direct and collateral lineage, Professor Horner was connected with a large circle of relatives, embracing many names of worth and note in various professions and conditions of life.

The parents of Professor Horner were deeply imbued with the sentiments and precepts of religion, of the duties of which they were strictly observant, commingled with no false austerities, which they exemplified in their practice and enjoined on their children.

It is to this source, in the earliest and most impressible period of existence, that may be traced the strong religious tendencies and feelings he exhibited throughout life.

During boyhood, young Horner's constitution was exceedingly feeble; he had little vigor, and was spare to meagreness.

He was so light in weight, that his rude companions would frequently snatch him up unceremoniously, greatly to his annoyance, and, in spite of his struggles and resistance, run off with him in bravado to display their greater strength, or in the mere wantonness of mischief. His weight as a boy long remained at 56 lbs.; and until the approach of adult age continued at 96 lbs.; at no period of life did it surpass 120. He could not join in the athletic sports

of youth. His life was sedentary, devoted to reading and the companionship of his elders.

His grandmother, towards the close of life, made the residence of her youngest son, William Horner, her home. Her young grandson, by his quiet manners and amiable disposition, became her favorite. She nursed him in his ailments, caressed him in health, was his earliest instructor. Their daily companionship knit him closely in her affections. She was accustomed to predict for him a future of usefulness and eminence, and remembered him in her will by a legacy.

There is something touching and beautiful in this mingling and communion of the extremes of life. The one in mellow decline, the affections warm and intelligence clear and mature, with youth in its dawn; the just awaking mind receiving its earliest impressions and its first thoughts, the seeds of its germinant ideas and principles that form character, from the wise experience, the ripened judgment, and tender piety of age.

The sedateness and composure of manner, the purity of mind, the strong conscientiousness, the deep but quiet religious feelings, the habits of sobriety and order, the abiding reverence for whatever he regarded as true, just, and sacred, which were the marked features of Dr. Horner's character through life, are, doubtless, in a great measure, to be attributed to the salutary influences of the affectionate training and plastic influences of his venerable relative.

The scholastic education of Professor Horner commenced in Warrenton, in his twelfth year, under the instruction of Mr. Charles O'Neill, a clergyman of the Episcopal Church. This gentleman had been educated at Trinity College, Dublin; he was a fine scholar, and enjoyed the reputation of an excellent teacher. He removed from Warrenton to Dumfries, where he opened an academy, assisted by his brother. He was followed by his pupil, who remained under his charge until the completion of his education.

A private academy, however well conducted, and useful as it may be for the preparation for collegiate courses, rarely embraces the studies of the higher departments, so important to the development, strengthening and training, of the intellectual faculties in their most important operations, the processes of sound thought, of forming just ideas, and the ascertainment of truth.

The mental culture of Dr. Horner was consequently not deep and thorough. This was a serious obstacle in the road of his advancement, but was less felt in the particular department to which he

devoted himself with a kind of instinctive predilection, than it would have been in other branches. This defect did not suppress or defeat his aspirations and efforts for professional progress and preferment. He gained all that his highest ambition could hope for. The work he had to do, was done, and done well; but it would have been more artistically, gracefully, and easily accomplished had a higher culture and more extended knowledge furnished him with more complete instruments and larger appliances to work with. His reputation would not only have been solid and honorable, but brilliant.

This defect is common throughout the country, and besets the Medical profession. Few of us, or of you, gentlemen, who now listen to me, have enjoyed higher advantages of mental training and cultivation than Professor Horner.

The labor of mastering the difficulties of a science like that of Medicine, now embracing in its wide expanse all of the physical sciences, whose facts are more complex and inscrutable than any other, is immensely increased, when it is attempted with inadequate preparation.

Strong intellects, by arduous efforts, may vanquish these difficulties; but feebler minds, without the aid of culture, training, and discipline, will find the conflict hopeless.

Cheap colleges and high schools are amongst the greatest deficiencies and most pressing wants of our country. They should be endowed by the State governments. They should be so numerous, and within the means of all, that those destined to professional pursuits should have the advantages of finished mental culture, and systematic training.

While at school at Dumfries, young Horner was a frequent visitant at the mansion of the late Judge Washington, through two of his school-mates, the Judge's nephews, and Mrs. Washington, who was a distant relative. This acquaintance was renewed in Philadelphia, after Dr. Horner was established here, and ripened into friendship. In his diary he records a long and interesting conversation he had with the Judge, two days before his death, on a variety of public subjects.

Two days after the death of the Judge, his widowed lady died suddenly in her carriage, a few miles from the city, on her way home. She was accompanied by Mrs. and Mr. John Washington, who dispatched a messenger for Dr. Horner. Death had been almost immediate. The body was brought to the city and deposited

in the Doctor's house, until the necessary arrangements were made for its removal to her residence in Virginia.

I mention this circumstance, and make the following extract from his journal, in which the event is recorded, as exemplifying the strong moral sentiments implanted in his nature.

"In affording this accommodation to her remains, I was forcibly struck with the strangeness of the revolutions occurring in individual circumstances.

"Twenty years before, when in the height of prosperity, she had been kind to me as a boy visiting at her house, and from whom she could reasonably expect no return; now, those blessings which the Almighty, in his goodness, has conferred on me of a good wife, and moderately easy circumstances, have enabled me to show some gratitude in giving a quiet and respectful asylum to her remains under my roof, and in contributing to the comfort of those relatives who accompanied her."

After the completion of his classical education, Dr. Horner commenced his medical studies in 1809, under the direction of Dr. John Spence, a Scotch physician, educated in Edinburgh.

He was said to be a well-read and intelligent gentleman, and acquired reputation and eminence as a physician. Dr. Horner continued the pupil of Dr. Spence until 1812. During this period he attended two sessions of the University of Pennsylvania. In his studies, anatomy was the branch that more particularly interested him, and for which he manifested the most decided partiality.

The following extract from a letter to his father, May, 1811, while yet a student, exhibits this feeling, and expresses, for one of his age and time of study, exceeding judicious views:—

"The books you sent to me gave great satisfaction. Instead, however, of satisfying my present anxiety to become well acquainted with the structure of the human body, they have excited in me an enthusiastic zeal to commence practical anatomy. A man, with the assistance of maps, may obtain a tolerable knowledge of countries, but it is only by traversing them that he becomes the geographer in reality. In like manner it is with the anatomist, for no anatomical plates can give him that confidence as to induce him to undertake a surgical operation, or give him as good an idea of the subject as dissection."

In July, 1813, during the prosecution of his studies in this city, and before he had graduated, he received a commission as surgeon's mate in the Hospital Department of the United States army. He

accepted the appointment after some hesitation, having expected a surgeoncy, with the privilege of continuing, at a suitable time, his studies in the University. In September following, he was attached to the 9th Military District, north of the Highlands, State of New York.

At this point commences the active life of Dr. Horner.

He now makes his first essay in the professional career he had adopted, which he is to pursue with all his energies through the unknown future before him, in which he is to find obscurity and poverty, or to gain distinction, reputation, and fortune.

Let us pause, and survey his position at this time. He had just reached his 20th year, of slender form (his weight about 100 lbs.), his pay some thirty or forty dollars per month, and rations. He has donned his uniform, made after the regulation of the Surgeon and Physician-General, Dr. James Tilton, of Delaware. Whatever may have been the professional excellences of the Surgeon and Physician-General, his sartorial qualifications were not very brilliant. The dress was coal black, which, from the readiness it shows dirt, was found in the service of the hospital and camp, the most unfit that could have been selected.

The coat was single-breasted, with standing collar, a gold star on each side, short-waisted and pigeon-tailed; the nether garments were tight. Picture the slight frame of the new-fledged surgeon's mate thus arrayed.

At first it was thought very fine, but it was soon found to attract an attention in the streets that did not consist of admiration; and when he arrived in camp, it had acquired for the surgeons, from their fellow-officers and soldiers, the soubriquet of "*Crows*." In a short time, the offspring of the Physician and Surgeon-General proved an abortion. The surgeons, in disgust, threw it aside, and each dressed after his own fashion.

Such were the outward habiliments of the man. What were the internal equipments and preparations, by which are decided the battles and struggles of life; by which we suffer loss and defeat, or achieve conquests, and are crowned with victory?

We have seen that, from his early education, his stock of general knowledge was not large; he was well-grounded in anatomy and surgery, the branches he preferred, with a superficial acquaintance only with the other departments of medicine; but he was conscious of his deficiencies, that he was only a student, and determined to lose no opportunity for improvement and the acquisition of know-

ledge. Nature had endowed him with a firm heart, that never failed him in difficulties; he was armed with a resolute determination not easily shaken, and a perseverance and application unwavering from fatigue. His ardor in the pursuit of knowledge was not abated by the labor it cost; he knew the range of his powers, and concentrated his efforts within them; he had in a high degree order, method, and economy; there was a time and a place for everything; there was no waste of time or means; his probity, conscientiousness, and sense of truth were such, that none who knew him ever doubted his word, questioned his statements, or refused to accord to him the fullest confidence. In conduct, he was quiet, unpretending, never acting or talking, or making false displays for effect. No one possessed less of the art, as expressed by Sterne, "of lifting heavy weights by small wires." He had no gifts of the courtier; no glozing speech or flattering words ever passed his tongue. Always polite, he was never obsequious. The impressions he made, and the friends he won, were from the convictions of his sincerity, integrity, and worth.

The moral and religious principles early inculcated and deeply rooted, were uncorrupted, though not yet strongly tried by temptations. They stood the test and trial of time unscathed and unimpaired.

His aspirations for the attainment of a high moral state, and of professional usefulness were ardent and steady. He appears to have formed for himself some ideal model, which it was the unceasing but unavailing aim of his existence to realize. He was never satisfied with what he had done; he lamented over his deficiencies, confessed his short-comings, acknowledged the superior claims and merits of others. His successes in life he never attributed to himself, or regarded as the reward of his deserts, but with the most profound faith and reliance on an Overruling Providence, he looked on them with a deep sense of gratitude and an unaffected humility, as the undeserved mercies of a Heavenly Father. These sentiments and expressions are recorded from year to year, month to month, in a kind of journal, which is rather a transcript of his moral nature, than a record of events.

In the preceding statement of the qualities that formed the character of Professor Horner, his deficiencies have not been extenuated, nor his virtues exaggerated. It was the possession of these elevated moral attributes that constituted the strength of Dr. Horner; and in them lay the source of his undeviating success and

prosperity. Without them, no efforts for advancement could have availed; enveloped in the dead calm of mediocrity, he would have remained undistinguished and unknown.

Their happy auspices carried him through life, like a bark fanned by prosperous gales, and driven by a perennial Etesian wind through placid seas, tossed by not a single storm, or driven from its course by adverse currents. From his first advance in professional life to its close, his fortune was a continued flow without an ebb; nothing he undertook failed; not a rational wish was ungratified, or an aspiration that was not fulfilled.

It is a moral truth, it may be well you should ponder on deeply, that our fortunes come from ourselves; success or failure is our own act. The disasters, contentions, conflicts, and storms of life, that so often mar its happiness and whelm in ruin its brightest prospects, arise from uncontrolled tempers and unbridled passions. The most brilliant genius and resplendent intellect, undirected by moral and religious principles, cannot insure success in life. They serve to render more conspicuous the shame, dishonor, the wreck and ruin they have wrought.

It would not be doing justice to Dr. Horner, or give a correct idea of his energy, self-command, and indomitable resolution, or a true conception of the disadvantages under which he labored, the long unceasing struggles he sustained in his progress, and the heavy cost at which his success was attained, did I not reveal a peculiarity of temperament, or psychical idiosyncrasy, never observed, or suspected to exist, by his most intimate associates and friends, or even by a large portion of his family circle.

While his exterior life appeared clear, bright, calm, and prosperous, his interior life was dark, desponding, agitated with vague apprehensions, and every mental effort a conflict, a struggle, and a victory.

Amongst his papers is one entitled, "My own Constitution," dated 1838. The following extracts will exemplify the condition I have mentioned: "It was considered at school that I learned with facility; but I never believed it. I have had headache or dull pains in the head three-fourths of my waking life, seldom acute, but always such as to make me uncomfortable, and prefer solitude to company.

"Short intermissions of this state of suffering have occurred. I have then felt illuminated as the earth is when the sun emerges

from behind a cloud. I have then hoped for a pleasurable existence, but it proved delusive, and I quickly relapsed into my ordinary state. Considering this serious obstacle to mental improvement, I wonder how I have made any advances, and especially such as to have given me an honorable station among men."

A little farther he writes: "My spirits get into so deplorable and hypochondriac a state, that I have a thousand times thought death would be a most welcome visitor, and have almost envied those whom I have just heard to have passed from the bondage and anxieties of this life.

"As I grow older, my system is evidently getting more and more under the influence of the preceding causes. From the smallest article of food used in the evening, the next morning I am rendered uncomfortable in the extreme; my mental faculties are hebetated, and I am so vertiginous as scarcely to be able to collect my ideas or go on with a demonstration. The latter state has indeed become so constant and frequent, that I have frequently thought my labors as a public teacher were becoming too imperfect and confused to deserve respect, and that it would be better, perhaps, for me to retire and seek for some other occupation."

The journal to which allusion has been made, kept irregularly, with long intermissions, is a history of this most remarkable mental conflict, of this life-struggle, continued, with but short intervals during existence, perverting all its blessings, and overshadowing every enjoyment with a sense of desolation. This state of mind recalls the fabled Eumenides of the ancients, pursuing their victim with relentless persecution. In 1826, in looking into himself for a solution of this mystery, he asks: "Does this feeling depend upon an act of injustice or of turpitude which I may have committed at a former period of life which now, preying upon my conscience, destroys its rest? None such is in my remembrance, but my actions have not been perfect. I have attempted to walk faithfully before men; but have I walked faithfully before God?"

On this point he would not acquit himself. Had this desponding state of mind been limited to his religious opinions and state, it might have been attributed to an excessively sensitive, or to a morbid condition of conscientiousness, that could not be satisfied with any performance of duties or religious services.

But there was no such limitation. It was not confined to a single sentiment, or train of thought, or particular view. It was general, embracing every view of life; it was diffused over the whole mind

as a common feeling. It resembled a continued polar night, illuminated by transient coruscations.

Almost every page of his journal furnishes evidences of this state of mind, of his undaunted courage in sustaining the conflict, never yielding, constantly rallying and summoning all his resources to resist the assaults of this inexorable and internal foe to his peace and happiness, an adversary planted in his path opposing his progress, in ceaseless contest. A few extracts will suffice to verify the accuracy of the statement I have made, and to prove what appears to me a most extraordinary psychical phenomenon.

In 1821, Dr. Horner made a visit to Europe. In respect to it he says: "I do not remember any period of life more painful, more distracting, which seemed to paralyze more completely every power of my mind, or to destroy more effectually every capability of pleasure. Notwithstanding the diversified and engaging scenes of a European tour, I do not think that for a twelvemonth at least, I had a single unalloyed sensation of pleasure; all was blended with a fixity of mind on distressing subjects, which no effort could dispel or allay. In fact, I thought my existence for the future must be under the influence of invincible melancholy, if not of fatuity."

Yet, during this period, the journal of that tour shows him to have been active, diligent in observing and investigating every subject of professional interest, and that could conduce to his improvement. It does not show a trace of this unhappy state of mind.

In February, 1826, he recommenced his journal, after an interruption of six years. That period had been one of uninterrupted prosperity. He had married the only woman whom he had ever loved, and for whom he felt an unabated attachment. He was the father of two fine children; he had gained an enviable position, was Adjunct Professor to Dr. Physick, whose entire confidence and friendship he enjoyed; he had accumulated a sufficiency to secure his independence, and had succeeded in advancing, by his industry and individual labor, the Anatomical Museum of the University, from an insignificant collection, to one of great interest and importance. After enumerating, dwelling on, and acknowledging with gratitude these great blessings, he continues: "In all of these things I have achieved what, ten years since, appeared to me so much beyond my ability, so much beyond probability, and at the same time so desirable, that, at that time, I should have considered their actual accomplishment as a source and means of happiness which would

last through life. Why is it that I still find myself discontented, restless, anxious for the future, frequently desponding, and often miserable? Why is it that the possession of money does not give me the pleasure expected from it? Why is it that the honors of my profession, which, in the rapidity of their coming, have placed me before my competitors, are not felt as such, and are become vapid? Why is it, that unquestionably the most precious ties on earth, those of husband and of father, which promised so much of solid comfort, and such a rallying point in life, do not excite in me an active sense of enjoyment?"

The following record is of date April 26, 1829:—

"I go to bed dissatisfied, taciturn, and looking for no greater comfort on the day to come, than I have enjoyed during the day past. Such is the unprepossessing picture of my life at the present time, and such has it been during the last six weeks; enjoyment has ceased, happiness has fled; I am inactive, worthless, lethargic.

"On former occasions I have been removed from this unworthy and degraded condition, by adopting rules of conduct; and now, hoping for a renewal of Divine Grace, and submitting to its will, I promise to adopt the following as the basis of my conduct."

Then follow ten rules, modifications of former regulations, that had from time to time been adopted with the same intentions. During the following month, is recorded a mitigation of his mental sufferings, and at the close of it he states: "I now begin to find my mind returning to that state of composure and quiet confidence in the mercies of God which I have from time to time enjoyed."

This intermission was of short duration. A week after, June 17, he writes: "This week has been one of gloom and heaviness, in the midst of the observance of my resolutions. I can attribute it to nothing, except the hypochondriac tendency of my mind."

This "dark fit" hung over him for the two next weeks. On the 21st of June, he continues his Journal in the same desponding tenor: "I find it vain to resist the current of one's nature. I am at the present moment, just as I have been for the last four months, a confirmed and dissatisfied *ennuyé*. Discontented with myself and feeling no pleasure or satisfaction in the things around me, and finding every plan abortive, either in study, religion, or amusement, from which I hoped to obtain that steady and enduring quietude of mind, which I have on former occasions enjoyed. I must now make up my mind to move down the current of life on those

terms that destiny, my peculiar nature, and my particular pursuits seem to have imposed unchangeably on me. I thank my Creator for the many unmerited favors I have received, and am constantly receiving at his hands. I ask pardon and forgiveness for the ingratitude of my nature, which prevents my mind from being illuminated with a single ray of joy, in reflecting on all His goodness. In the midst of the means of happiness, I am the victim of an unhappy destiny; my mind is cast in a mould which makes it insensible to the best gifts of Providence; and all that remains for me, is to submit resignedly during the remainder of the voyage, now drawing to a close, down the everflowing stream of time."

The unhappy and disabling affliction, revealed in the foregoing extracts, was manifested in no exterior sign. The fact must take by surprise all acquainted with him, as it did myself, so long his associate. With what heroic bravery, with what stoical fortitude was it borne! No complaining, no murmur was heard. Every engagement was kept, every duty fulfilled, no necessary labor avoided, no inattention to what he undertook, earnest and zealous in every measure to promote the efficiency of the medical instruction of the university; no stinting of himself to the mere duty imposed on him as a teacher of Special Anatomy, but adding additional lectures, at extra hours, on General and Topographical Anatomy. These things and others, all the exertions nearly of his life, were done under the pressure of a moral weight that would have crushed those endowed with far more vigorous and capable mental faculties to the earth.

We are now acquainted with Dr. Horner. We have taken his dimensions, have estimated his capabilities, powers, and means of action, in waging the great contest of life, in which he was about to engage, and in which we are to accompany him.

In following him through his course it will be unnecessary to dwell on details or events except when having some illustrative bearing.

Our young surgeon's mate, in pursuance of orders from Washington, joined the army on the Niagara frontiers, September 25, 1813. The army was about breaking up quarters, to rendezvous at Sackett's Harbor. Doctor Horner received orders on the 25th to take charge of seventy-three invalids, ordered to be forwarded to Greenbush, from the hospital at Lewistown. They had all been wounded, many severely, at the capture of Yorktown and Fort George. The

detachment was under the command of Lieut. Whiting, who was directed, in consequence of the wretched state of the roads, to proceed as far as practicable by water. The detachment accompanied a portion of the army to Oswego, which was not reached until the 6th of October.

From the difficulty of procuring the means of transportation, they were detained until the 13th. The detachment suffered severely from exposure and hardships. A large part of the route was through the unreclaimed wilderness, the weather was cold and tempestuous, with frequent falls of snow. At Utica, where the artillery was met on the route to Sackett's Harbor, Lieut. Whiting was detached by the order of Col. Winfield Scott, now Major-General Scott, and the command of the invalid corps was assigned to the young surgeon's mate. Descending the Mohawk near the Little Falls, the boats grounded on some rocks in the middle of the stream, as the day was closing, endangering the safety of the party, particularly of the disabled soldiers.

The inhabitants in this vicinity, it appears, were opposed to the war and the governing administration at Washington. They assembled on a high bank, overlooking the scene of disaster. The boatmen, ignorant of the river, called to them for advice and assistance. Both were refused: they were jeered at and insulted; the detachment was abused as damned soldiers from the lines, and other obloquies lavished on them. After some detention and great efforts, the boats were got afloat, and the detachment landed for the night, about a mile below, where they received a hospitable reception at two farms, the barns of which were placed at their disposal.

The soldiers were irritated and indignant at the treatment they had received. Unknown to the new medical commander, a party of such as had the use of their limbs sallied forth at midnight, broke into the houses of those who had acted towards them so inhumanly and brutally; and broke up and demolished their furniture and other household goods. The party assailed threatened prosecution; but on due consideration thought it better to submit to the punishment they had deservedly brought on themselves. Dr. Horner, at first, felt his position unpleasant, as he would be compelled to appear the defender of an act of illegal violence; yet he could not condemn the retaliation by his men for the gross outrage and provocation they had received. There are circumstances when retaliative or natural law can alone reach offenders, and when a resort to it is justifiable. This was such a case.

Immediately on delivering up his command at Greenbush, Dr. Horner received a furlough, and hastened on to Philadelphia to prosecute his professional studies. He attended the courses of the University through the winter, and graduated in April, 1814.

The campaign of 1814 opened on the Niagara frontier, on the 8d July, when the army crossed to the Canada side. It is memorable for the number of sharp conflicts and sanguinary encounters that took place, and the brilliant success of the American arms.

Dr. Horner reached the frontier June 25th, and was attached to the hospital at Buffalo.

The attack on Fort Erie, on the 4th July, and battle of Chippewa, on the 15th, filled the wards of the hospital with wounded. Between sixty and seventy fell to the share of Dr. Horner. The battle of Bridgewater, on the 25th July, in which the British were defeated, swelled his list to 175 wounded and sick.

An attack was made by the enemy on Black Rock, on the 4th August, which endangered the safety of the hospital. All the sick and wounded, whose condition would admit of it, were removed to the hospital at Williamsburgh, a village eleven miles from Buffalo. Those who could not be removed, eighty or ninety in number, were left in the hospital, which was placed under the direction of Surgeon Horner.

Under these circumstances, Dr. Horner was subjected at this time to the exercise of a capricious tyranny and abuse of power, wholly unmerited. On the afternoon of the 7th August, he was arrested by the commanding officer of the post for neglect of duty. The Doctor felt it as an act of extreme indignity and injustice. He had been incessantly engaged in a most laborious business, attended to with the utmost punctuality, and in such a manner as to meet the unequivocal approbation of those who immediately superintended him, a most striking proof of which was his being left in the direction of the hospital.

The next morning the arrest was removed in an unofficer-like and ungentlemanly manner, without explanation or apology. The supposed offence to this captious hero was, that Dr. Horner, having prescribed for him, and having prepared the medicine, did not send it, understanding that a servant would come for it.

The assault on Fort Erie, the 15th August, by the British forces, in which they were repulsed with a very heavy loss, threw an additional number of wounded into the hospital. On the next day, one

hundred and forty-three of the wounded English soldiers were sent over, most of them dreadfully mangled and severely burnt by the blowing up of the bastion. "They exhibited," he remarks, "the most hideous aspect I ever beheld."

To the military surgeon, the blood-stained glories of war are but a succession of horrors. Such appears to have been the feelings of Surgeon Horner, as expressed in the following extract from his Journal, 16th August:—

"The genius of Humanity weeps over the extremes of human misery which the short period of fifty days has produced on this frontier. It cannot be truly described: affrighted women and children flying from their homes to escape the savage fury of the enemy and their Indian allies, the groans of the wounded, the horrid mutilation of their bodies, the want of comfortable accommodation for them, all combine to present a scene terrible beyond description. Since the 2d day of July, this frontier has exhibited an uninterrupted scene of bloodshed: two pitched battles have been fought; Fort Erie assaulted; this place attacked, numerous skirmishes, and as to cannonading and bombarding, they scarcely cease an hour from day to day.

On the 17th, the garrison made the sortie famed in our military annals, destroying all the British artillery except two pieces, and most of their works, and capturing over four hundred prisoners. On the 22d, the English army, disheartened by so many reverses, abandoned the siege of Fort Erie. Active hostilities in this quarter ceased, and the troops were dispersed in cantonments for the winter. On December 24, Doctor Horner writes, in his Journal: "This day concludes my tour of duty on the Niagara frontier, my whole hospital being removed to Williamsville by a general order of the 23d instant. I was first on the ground, and am the last to quit it. I am now, by permission, on the eve of setting off for Washington; my health is bad, but, I hope, will not interrupt my travelling."

This campaign was a fruitful field of surgical experience for Dr. Horner in his favorite pursuit. It was not neglected.

Notwithstanding his incessant occupation, with very inadequate assistance in dressing the wounded and prescribing for the sick, he kept notes and records of his cases, many of them of great interest. The results of his observation and experience are published in a series of papers in the *Medical Examiner*, for 1852.

The intelligence of the signing of the treaty of peace at Ghent was

received at Washington, February the 15th, 1815. Dr. Horner found his occupation gone. He was stationed at Norfolk, Virginia, surgeon's mate to a handful of troops. At this stage, he surveyed the prospect before him. Promotion must be tardy; a life, for the most part idle and listless, was before him; it gave no opportunity for professional experience; there was nothing to animate his zeal, to satisfy the earnestness of his character, to gratify his instinctive desires of knowledge in anatomy and surgery, or to fulfil his aspirations for distinction. His decision was prompt; on the 13th of March he sent in his resignation; on the 23d, he received information of its acceptance; the next day he left Norfolk for his paternal residence.

Dr. Horner settled for a time at Warrenton. In his native town and the surrounding country, in the midst of numerous relatives, of a large family connection and friends, he soon met with an encouragement that would have fully satisfied the expectations of most young practitioners. A short time convinced him his true destination was elsewhere. He could not complain of the present, but the future was uninviting. He heard no voice that called to him, no sign to beckon him on.

On the contrary, there was something that appeared to repel him, and drive him away. The idea of remaining became intolerable. He writes on this subject: "Flesh and blood could stand it no longer; often have I paced with rapid and disordered steps my little office, agitating in the most painful state of mind my future fortunes."

As this was a critical epoch of life, and the step he now took would influence, probably, his future existence, he deliberated long before his final resolution was taken. There is amongst his papers one on this subject, which is very characteristic of his mind and habits. It is a table drawn up to aid the decision that was then agitating him. It is dated July, 1815. Four schemes presented themselves to his mind, viz: To remain at Warrenton, to remove to Philadelphia, to enter the navy, or engage in the East India service. Under each of these heads were arranged, in as many columns and in numerical order, the advantages and disadvantages of each, the promises held forth, and the attendant risks.

The India surgeoncy was thought of as a temporary measure, but an application to a prominent merchant of that day proved unsuccessful. Philadelphia was ultimately preferred, from its superior attractions and opportunities of cultivating anatomy and surgery,

its enlarged field for enterprise and acquiring distinction, though the risk of failure and loss was a serious drawback.

His preparations were made; he realized the legacy of his grandmother, collected what was due him, and the 3d of December bade adieu to the home of his birth. In recording this event, he expresses himself in these terms: "The Rubicon is passed; I have forsaken my relations, my friends, and my practice. I am now on my way to Philadelphia, where I intend to seek my fortunes. I have put all at hazard. O, thou Eternal Father, the giver of all good gifts! may thy blessing attend me."

The winter was passed in close attendance on the lectures of the University, in professional reading, and in the prosecution of practical anatomy. At its close, he regarded "his prospects as far from being flattering; but patience and perseverance might insure ultimate success; at all events, he would put his shoulder to the wheel."

But the morning dawn of his professional eminence and success was then beginning to break, though unperceived by him.

His enthusiasm for anatomy, his earnest application to dissection, his quiet demeanor, his steadiness of character, the neatness and excellence of his preparations, had attracted the notice of Professor Wistar, and gained his friendship, confidence, and esteem.

In March, he offered to Dr. Horner to appoint him his dissector, with a salary of five hundred dollars per annum.

The offer was immediately accepted, though the emolument was small.

This opening, trifling as it appears, "led on to fortune." It placed him on the path to which he was predestined by his innate taste and inclinations. His progress was uninterrupted. He moved forward as on a royal road; no impediment occurred to retard, or obstacle to arrest his advance, until he had gained all that fortune, ever propitious to him, could bestow.

An occurrence, in this stage of his life, gives an indication of his principles. In the fall, he was oppressed with great despondency regarding his future welfare, and assailed by anxious and corroding cares, picturing to his mind the dangers of abject poverty and want. At this time, an offer was made to him of a surgeon's place on board an East Indiaman.

Several medical gentlemen, from the trading privileges allowed them, had found the situation profitable; and it had been a favorite

plan with Dr. Horner. The proposal was immediately declined in consequence of his engagement with Dr. Wistar.

He remarks, in noting down this occurrence: "It is said that the fortune of every man depends on some unexpected circumstance; I may have rejected that on which my fortune turned. My refusal arose from my sense of obligation and honorable intentions to Dr. Wistar. There is a maxim that 'honesty is the best policy.' I now put it to the test." A note is appended to this passage, dated January, 1832, to this effect: "See vote of Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania, appointing me Professor of Anatomy, November, 1831."

The connection formed with Dr. Wistar ripened into personal friendship and warm regard. In the summer of 1817, Dr. Wistar being compelled to visit the interior of the State in reference to property he owned, selected Dr. Horner as his companion.

The demonstrations of the anatomical course were fuller and more complete than they had been previously; and the anatomical museum was rapidly increased by numerous specimens and preparations, particularly of fine injections as well as important pathological illustrations. He worked most assiduously, for it was a work of love.

In speaking of the year 1817, he writes: "It opened on me with prospects too appalling for the mind of man to bear." He had, about that period, nearly determined on abandoning the world, and of devoting himself wholly to a religious life, and in preparation for eternity. He continues: "It closed upon me with circumstances I had not dared to anticipate. Fortune had pushed me even farther than I could have demanded."

The death of Dr. Wistar, which occurred unexpectedly on the 22d of January, 1818, appeared to cast a blight on the budding fortunes of young Horner. The event was poignantly felt by him. "This afflicting dispensation," he records, "has harrowed up my mind beyond the manifestation of grief; my friend, my patron, my example in life, the good, the illustrious Wistar, is no more. My hopes are again destroyed."

The vacant chair of Anatomy in the University was filled by the election of Dr. John Sing Dorsey, the nephew of Dr. Physick, under whose auspices he had been carefully educated, and had already acquired a distinguished medical and surgical reputation. High expectations had been formed of this appointment.

Nature had largely endowed him with brilliant qualities. He

possessed a capacious intellect, well cultivated and replenished with literary stores; he was fluent and apt in discourse, with an excellent delivery. To these were added a ready wit, generous spirit, and a joyous temper. It may be considered doubtful from his social habits, whether he could have submitted to the application and drudgery of the practical anatomist.

He probably felt this, and appointed Dr. Horner as his Demonstrator, and placed the dissecting class and all its emoluments in his hands.

How vain and unstable are all human calculations. These bright anticipations were dashed to the ground. Dr. Dorsey opened the Anatomical Course of 1818 with one of the most brilliant introductory lectures, as it was generally pronounced, that had ever been delivered in the University. It excited the highest admiration. That night he was taken ill with a disease that assumed in a few days a fatal character, and in a week or ten days consigned him to a most untimely grave.

A cloud, it appeared to Dr. Horner, again gathered over and shadowed his prospects. The event proved the reverse.

Dr. Physick, in consideration of his nephew's family, though in a very desponding state of mind from the loss of one to whom he was much attached, who possessed his entire confidence, and whom he looked to as the prop of his declining age, and though in ill health, undertook to carry on the anatomical course, as well as his own lectures on Surgery.

He immediately renewed with Dr. Horner the engagement that had been made by Dr. Dorsey. The course was completed in a manner highly satisfactory to Dr. Physick and the class. The assiduity and zeal of Dr. Horner, and the excellence of his demonstrations, by lightening the labor of the course and facilitating its progress, contributed in no small degree to this result.

From some views not easily understood, Dr. Physick resigned in the succeeding summer the Professorship of Surgery, to which he had given so much illustration by his high reputation, his enlarged experience, and his sound surgical principles, and accepted the Chair of Anatomy.

Dr. Physick was so much satisfied with Dr. Horner's services the preceding winter, that he at once renewed the connection with him on the most liberal terms. Dr. Horner expresses himself to the following effect:—

"I have reason to congratulate myself on the succession of Dr.

Physick to the Anatomical Chair. His views towards me justify the hopes I have entertained of professional success. Let the event be what it may, I shall always consider as auspicious the moment that placed me in contact with a man of his elevated and useful character."

The following spring, March, he again writes:—

"Dr. Physick's conduct savors of the utmost liberality, and I have to thank my stars for casting my destiny under his guidance. His confidence in me seems unshaken, notwithstanding the atrocious and anonymous attempts to destroy it."

This alludes to a systematic plan of anonymous attacks upon him, and which called forth the following remarks: "I have been constantly assured, in a succession of years, that my exertions gave satisfaction to Dr. Wistar, Dr. Dorsey, and Dr. Physick; the young men placed under my charge have also commonly appeared satisfied, but notwithstanding these evidences in my favor, some anonymous friend of the University assures Dr. Physick and Dr. Chapman in his communications, that their patronage of me is doing a serious injury to the school, and advises another to be taken in my place."

The position Dr. Horner had now gained and in which he was so firmly intrenched, at once secured and commanded his success in his future fortunes. He possessed the entire confidence and had won the steadfast friendship of Dr. Physick, the foremost in the ranks of the profession, and whose opinion was of great weight in society. His income was considerably above his wants, and a commencing accumulation gave a confidence in a future store. The harassing fears of failure and destitution, conjured up by the dark despondency to which he was so often a prey, were for the time dispelled. So entirely had mind, feelings, and affections, been engrossed in the hard struggle he had bravely maintained against discouraging odds, that no other consideration could engage his attention or make a permanent impression. He had now the assurance of security and independence: he could indulge in other thoughts, and look into other relations of life.

It is remarkable and characteristic that up to this period he had been unconscious of that profound sentiment, of that ideality of the moral faculties, the source of our noblest conceptions of moral duties, and of our purest enjoyment, the origin of man's highest aspirations on this earth, and only awakened into existence by the inspiration of woman. He had never loved; nay, he was sceptical of the existence of such a passion, certainly as to himself, and

looked upon all that had been said in eloquent prose or sung in harmonious verse on the subject, as the illusions of an ardent nature, or the exaggerated fictions of a poetic imagination.

But his hour had arrived, as it comes to all. He felt and acknowledged the reality of the sentiment he had denied; and, possessed by the passion he had discredited, roused from its dormant state, he was thrown into new trains of thought and impelled into a new condition of being. In this relation of life he was favored as in so many others. His hopes were not thwarted. He was affianced, and in October, 1820, was married to Elizabeth Welsh, the third daughter of Mr. John Welsh, a prominent merchant of this city.

By this marriage Dr. Horner entered into a highly respectable family, largely connected, and became more closely identified, in assuming the family relationship, with the citizens of Philadelphia.

Dr. Horner was happy in this union, in which he found those congenial qualities and virtues that form the happiness of domestic life.

There was born of this marriage ten children, six of whom still survive. The three elder daughters were eligibly married. The last, Josephine, the wife of Dr. Richard Eppes, of City Point, Virginia, died suddenly in this city, January, 1852, under peculiarly painful circumstances.

The shock was terrible to her father; and though he rarely spoke on the subject, it evidently preyed on his feelings: he never rallied from the blow. The last lecture he delivered was on the day previous to the first anniversary of her death. He was worn out, exhausted: "the pitcher, for the last time, had gone to the well." The next day he sent for me. The heart, which had long been organically diseased, was acting convulsively: he was under high moral and nervous excitement. Yet he made no allusion to the day or the event. His thoughts locked up in his bosom, and his feelings suppressed, were racking his frame: but no outward sign betrayed his mental suffering. The face wore its habitual calm, sedate, cold, deliberate expression; yet the father's heart was breaking for the daughter's loss.

In the month succeeding his marriage, at the request of Dr. Physick, Dr. Horner was associated with him as Adjunct Professor of Anatomy. From this time there is but little more to record in the life of Dr. Horner, than the occurrences of a successful professional life, and a strict attention to his various duties.

In 1823 he was appointed one of the Surgeons to the Philadelphia Almshouse Hospital, which office he held for twenty-five years.

Dr. Physick, broken down by increasing infirmities, finding the task of lecturing beyond his powers, resigned his chair in 1831.

Dr. Horner, in November of that year, was unanimously elected in his place.

On the approach of the cholera invasion in 1832, the City Councils appointed a Sanatory Board composed of the principal physicians of the city. Dr. Horner was one of those selected; and was subsequently placed in charge of one of the temporary district hospitals, established during the prevalence of the epidemic.

He devoted himself to investigate the anatomical lesions that occur in the intestinal tube in cholera. For this object he adopted an entirely new method of observation. He first made a minute injection of the mucous membrane, and then examined it under water with large magnifying lenses; and afterwards on the object-glass of the microscope.

In this manner, he demonstrated that the epithelial structure of the small intestines is destroyed and desquamated.

Boehm, of Berlin, subsequently ascertained the same fact, and it has been confirmed by numerous observations since then. I claim, then, for Dr. Horner, the credit of having first devised the method of obtaining an exact knowledge of the pathological condition of the mucous membranes and epithelial tissues; that is, by previously injecting them, examining them under water with magnifying glasses, and the microscope; and, further, of being the first who demonstrated, conclusively, that entire desquamation of the epithelium of the small intestines is a cardinal and especial anatomical lesion in cholera.

This lesion, as a constant symptom or anatomical alteration, is met with in no other disease, and is far more intimately connected with the pathology of cholera than the lesion of Peyer's glands, first announced by Louis as existing in typhoid fever, and for which he has received so much credit, is with the pathology of that affection.

Dr. Horner, in a communication published in the *American Journal of Medical Sciences*, for 1834, described his process, and stated the results of his examination. A paper made its appearance, published in Paris, in the *Presse Medicale*, two years subsequent to the publication of Dr. Horner, in which the author proposed the same method, but made no allusion to Dr. Horner's paper

on the same subject. He took great credit to himself, as the first to propose that mode, the only correct one for determining the pathological alteration of mucous membranes.

No peculiar circumstances from this period occurred to disturb or to change the tenor of his life. He continued to labor diligently in his various occupations, in illustrating and teaching anatomy and clinical surgery, making additions to the Wistar Museum, transacting the business of the University, of which he was the dean for thirty odd years, publishing new editions of his *Special Anatomy and Histology*, with the illustrations, improvements, and additions, adapting the work to the advancing progress of science, of making communications to different medical journals, and in attending daily to his private practice. These diversified engagements were pursued under the constant and disabling pressure of the moral suffering which afflicted him the greater portion of his life. In 1848, he writes: "I find my nature unchanged; I am now very much as I have been for so many years, and have but little prospect of improvement in my habitual state of mind, either the result of its own bad organization, or of a body too feeble to keep it in anything like tone."

Nor were his domestic and social ties forgotten or neglected.

From his system and order, he found time for every duty. Amongst other objects that engaged his attention, and excited his zeal, was the establishment of an additional hospital for the relief of the better classes of our operative population. The want of such a charity had long been felt, but no one moved in the undertaking. After several ineffectual attempts in general society, Dr. Horner directed his efforts to the stirring up of the Catholic church and community on this subject. He succeeded; and the founding of the St. Joseph's Hospital, in 1849, may be attributed mainly to his exertions.

In June, 1841, Dr. Horner, for the first time, had an attack of dyspnoea, while residing in the country. In each succeeding year, these attacks were renewed with increased severity and frequency. They were most commonly brought on by indigestion, or over-exertion, or excitement. In 1844, I saw him in one of his attacks. The lungs were violently congested. I succeeded in obtaining a slight auscultatory examination, to which he was averse, sufficient to ascertain the existence of hypertrophy of the heart, apparently without lesion of the valves. He was relieved by a bleeding and by a copious expectoration of bloody serum.

In 1847, his constitution appeared to be yielding to the affection. The attacks were frequent, either severe or slight, his nights for a time, nearly sleepless, and dropsical effusions had commenced.

He was, in this state, attending daily to practice, sometimes on foot, and ascending the staircases of hotels and private residences, regardless of his sufferings. It was with difficulty he could be persuaded to retire to the country, to find relief in inaction and repose. He returned in the fall, so much recruited from this regimen, that he carried on the winter course without interruption, though the carotids could be seen from every bench of the anatomical amphitheatre violently throbbing, and it was a daily expectation he might drop at the demonstration table.

In the spring of 1848, Dr. Horner, accompanied by his friend, Dr. Leidy, made the tour of Europe. He rallied on the voyage, and soon after landing engaged with the ardor of a young medical tourist in professional pursuits. In England, Germany, and France, he visited hospitals and anatomical museums, and sought out eminent anatomists and surgeons. He was in Vienna while the revolutionary movements were in progress. He was also in Paris during the fierce conflicts of July, when he witnessed in the hospitals, filled with the wounded, every variety of gunshot wound, and the modes of treatment pursued. In passing from one hospital to another, our medical travellers found themselves suddenly between two parties of combatants, when they had to take refuge in a *porte cochère* to avoid the deadly missiles.

From this excursion, Dr. Horner returned much benefited, and was enabled to attend to his routine of duties without intermission until the winter of 1852-3.

During 1852, his attacks and sufferings increased, and sad inroads were made on his constitution and health. At the opening of the course, in October, his situation appeared very precarious, and gave serious apprehensions to his friends. He was resolute in his determination to lecture; he could not bring his mind to abandon the field in which for twenty-one years he had successfully labored. But it was early apparent that his career was drawing to a close, and the impossibility of his finishing the course manifested.

Early in November, immediately on my return from Europe, where I had been detained, he requested my opinion of his state, and the course he should pursue. He was frankly told that lecturing, or practising, in his then state, was impossible—must not be thought of; that rest and tranquillity were indispensable. "Then,"

said he, "I must leave the city; I cannot remain and follow your advice." He left the next day on a visit to his friends at the South, returned in three weeks, temporarily rallied, and resumed his lectures, which he continued until January 27. This last lecture was accomplished with difficulty. His limbs were distended with dropsical swellings; for a week he had been lecturing while bandaged to the waist; his respiration labored and short, rendered speech difficult; the heaving heart and throbbing carotids seemed threatening every moment an apoplectic hemorrhage, a sudden congestion, or fatal effusion on the lungs. At the end of the lecture he deliberately walked to his home, at least a quarter of a mile, as though he were in perfect health. From this time he felt the conviction that his office in life was closed, and he was soon to be removed from those duties which he had fulfilled with earnestness and integrity. He resigned himself calmly to his fate, and awaited its coming without a murmur or with reluctance. There was, with him, no parade of preparation for a future state, for it had been the ruling thought and aim of his whole life. He seldom talked of his death, but, when it was alluded to, it was treated and spoken of as any other occurrence of our daily life. A circumstance I am tempted to mention, shows his coolness and unconcern on this subject. He was lying on a couch—Doctor Henry Smith and myself sitting on each side. Doctor Horner was suffering some pain, a new symptom that had just commenced. He demonstrated with his finger the different regions of the trunk, enumerating the organs they contained, and the state of each, and indicated the exact seat where he then suffered the most. This was done with the interest and earnest manner of a demonstration to his class. I was so struck with it as to call the attention of Doctor Smith to this display of the "ruling passion strong in death." "Look! here is the anatomist dissecting his body—making a *post-mortem* before he is dead." The remark so amused Doctor Horner, that he laughed heartily, in which we joined him. At the end he said: "Well, I have not had so good a laugh for a long time." This occurred on the third day before his death.

The imperative sense of duty, so conspicuous a trait in Doctor Horner, was manifested in the last moments of his life. Towards the close of February, finding the most urgent symptoms of his case mitigated, and his life prolonged beyond his expectations, he insisted on relieving the Faculty of the University of a portion of the labors his incapacitated state might throw on them. He

commenced the anatomical examination of the candidates for graduation, aided by his son-in-law, Doctor Henry H. Smith, and continued this duty until within two days of his death.

It is somewhat remarkable that the death of Doctor Horner was not the immediate result of the chronic affection under which his constitution had broken down. He had complained about the 10th of March of pain in the abdomen on the left side. The night of the 12th it suddenly assumed an intensity that led to the suspicion of peritonitis from a perforation. He sank exhausted by unceasing and unmitigable suffering the evening of the next day, March 13, surrounded by his sorrowing family and relatives.

Examination after death revealed the existence of entero-peritonitis, with mortification of the small intestines. This new condition was the direct cause of death, and had suddenly supervened on the original disease.

In estimating the merits of Doctor Horner in a scientific view, he must be judged according to his pretensions. Special anatomy was the chief object of his pursuit; it was the department to which he devoted himself, and in which he acquired the distinction he possessed. He cultivated surgery as a profession intimately associated with anatomy, and also practised medicine. It is not the custom in our country to separate these different departments, though some one may be a more special subject of attention. As an anatomist, he was certainly one of the most eminent and complete our country has produced.

The anatomical museum of the University, founded by Doctor Wistar, is an evidence of his great anatomical skill and untiring application. A very large portion of it, upwards of two-thirds, and containing most of its finest preparations, rivalling those of the best anatomical museums of Europe, is the result of his labors. On his death, he bequeathed the whole of them, together with all his instruments and apparatus connected with dissections, to the medical department of the University. The valuation of this donation is between eight and ten thousand dollars. The Board of Trustees have, in consequence of this liberal bequest, bestowed on this collection the name of the "Wistar and Horner Museum."

Human anatomy systematically cultivated for upwards of four hundred years, and many hundreds of dissections having been annually made during that period, it might be expected that little or nothing could be left to be gleaned at this time. But the in-

dustry of Doctor Horner has proved there still remained some portions of structure which, though overlooked, would yield to close research.

Doctor Horner, from observation, felt satisfied that the common account of the apparatus of lachrymation did not explain fully the phenomena of that function. The constant application of the puncta lachrymalia to the surface of the eye, under varying circumstances, by which they are kept bathed in the tears, was unexplained. He accordingly sought for the solution of this difficulty, and discovered, almost as soon as sought for, a special muscle situated on the posterior surface of the lachrymal ducts and sacs. The discovery of this muscle was immediately verified by anatomists in this country and in Europe. He named this muscle "Tensor Tarsi." It has also been named after him "Musculus Hornerii."

Amongst the principal of the European anatomists, who admitted this discovery, was Signor Trassmondi, who wrote a pamphlet respecting it, explaining its uses. He discovered, also, the nerves distributed to it. The original discovery of this muscle by Dr. Horner, was contested by an Italian anatomist, Signor Flagiani, who quoted several authorities as having pointed out its existence. In a paper published in the ninth volume of the *Philadelphia Journal of Medical Science*, Dr. Horner has completely rebutted this allegation, and has shown clearly that none of the quotations have any reference to the muscle he discovered. The claim, it appears to me, is fully sustained.

It has been stated to me that Dr. Mosely, of this city, has lately discovered the antagonist of this muscle, a circumstance that proves positively its existence, which, by some, was at first denied.

The glands of the axilla in the black race, have been shown, by Dr. Horner, to exist in much larger numbers, and are much more developed in them than in the white.

The odor peculiar to both races, far more intense in the black than in the white, proceeds principally from these bodies. He named them "odoriferous glands."

He has farther shown some peculiarities in the muscular arrangement of the rectum, that have interesting connection with its pathological states, not noticed by former anatomists; and in describing the larynx, he has united the observations of Lauth and Dr. Leidy, and proposes a new anatomical description of the fibro-elastic membrane that lines it interiorly beneath the mucous tissue, and forms the vocal cords. He gives to it the very appropriate name of "Vocal

or Phonetic Membrane." The timbre, or peculiarity of musical tone of the voice, depends, most probably, on the development and physical characters of this ligament.

Dr. Horner was not fluent, copious in language, nor had he any pretensions to elocution, but he was a very excellent teacher of anatomy. His plan was, to a certain extent, novel. He composed a text-book, which was a most complete but concise treatise on *Anatomy*.

It was written in "strict reference to the course of study pursued in the University of Pennsylvania, and was kept in as compendious a state as possible, so that there should be no unnecessary loss of time in reading it."*

It is much to be regretted that few books are written in this spirit, and that much time is lost in reading mere words. This book was in fact his lectures; it was not costly, and was in the hands of all his students. In the lecture-room, he confined himself chiefly to the demonstration of the text of his work, by dissections, preparations, drawings, and models. On the value of this method there will be different opinions; but it is certain that he made good anatomists. I have frequently heard students declare that, plain, simple, and unadorned as were the lectures of Dr. Horner, they had learned anatomy better from him than from any other they had heard lecture on that branch.

That Dr. Horner was a popular teacher with the classes of the University is certain. He commanded their respect, their confidence, their esteem, and their affection. No one ever spoke unkindly or disrespectfully of him.

The portrait that is suspended before you is an evidence of what I state. When it was known, last winter, to the class, that, in all likelihood, Dr. Horner would never again lecture, a contribution was raised to procure his portrait and present it to the University. The work was confided to one of our ablest artists.

It is a truthful likeness, and a fine picture. When it is considered that it was drawn, in a great measure, from memory, it must be regarded as wonderful.

It presents him, as it should do, not as he appeared in the last years of his life, pallid in premature decay, and worn to the bone by cares, labor and disease, but as I recall him in early days, rejuvenated, in health, manhood, and strength. That portraiture is his outward semblance revived in the truthfulness of nature, preserved

* Horner's *Special Anatomy*, Preface to 8th ed.

from the ravages and decay of death, and the oblivion of the tomb.

How beautiful, how glorious the art that achieves such a triumph.

For years to come, in after time, will generations of students look on that portrait, and know him whom now we commemorate, whose name will designate the enlarged and magnificent museum, as it will then be, and from whose fine and admirable preparations they will be deriving a knowledge of the mysteries of organic structure.

Dr. Horner was an able surgeon, sound in his judgment, and judicious in his practice. Such I found him in many surgical cases I confided to his care. His surgery partook of his general character; it was deliberate and cautious; nothing was done for display; there was nothing dashing or boastful about it.

Danger always attends on the knife. No operation can be performed, even the simplest, that may not endanger life. I have known three deaths, besides several severe injuries to the arm from the operation of bleeding, and two deaths from the removal of small adipose tumors, in this city. A capital operation, by the mutilation produced or injury inflicted on important organs, becomes itself a disease that may entail death with as much probability as the condition it is intended to remedy. The shock and consequences of an operation are as severe, and task as much the forces and powers of the constitution and economy, as the injury for which it is performed. Dr. Horner, aware of this fact, in the conclusion of his surgical sketches, published in the *Medical Examiner*, reviewed the important surgical question as to the propriety of immediate or delayed amputation in serious injuries of the extremities. His criticisms appear to me well grounded. Without coming to any positive decision, he rather dissents from the general decision of the English surgeons and those of our own country, in favor of immediate amputation. He objects to the statistical tables and observations on which this conclusion is founded. Many of them are deficient in the precision and exactness of facts indispensable in the rigid canons of modern science. "I consider it highly inconclusive," he remarks, "to group amputations by the limb, instead of by the region of the limb, and still more so to speak of all sorts of amputations in a sum without any analysis."

Amputations below the shoulder and below the knee have a comparatively light mortality, while those above the middle of the thigh are always hazardous. "These last are," Dr. Horner considers, "the turning point of the inquiry, and the question resolves itself into

the determination, as a general rule, whether, in those cases, immediate amputation, delayed amputation, or no amputation at all of this part is the preferable course." In the other cases, as immediate and delayed amputation differ very little in results, the surgeon must be governed by the incidental circumstances of each case. Mr. Guthrie decides, from comparative experience, in favor of the first term of the proposition in opposition to the second. He appears to have entirely neglected the third term, which is an important element of the problem yet remaining to be settled. Bilguers, the Surgeon-General of Frederick the Great, discouraged by the almost uniform fatal termination of amputations in the Russian army, prohibited a recourse to them altogether. The result of this extensive experiment was in favor of the third term, opposed to the first and second, or of no amputation. But it is too general in its character to be applied absolutely to the proposition formulated by Dr. Horner, limited to fractures of the thigh.

Dr. Horner has proposed an intermediate course, which, it strikes me, merits the serious attention of our surgeons. It is, that in aggravated fractures of the thigh, "when the limb is dangling or hopelessly injured, with the bones comminuted, to resect the limb at the point of connection, and simply to square off the protuberant bone." This is "scarcely an amputation," "it can do but little harm," there is little or no additional shock to the constitution, or reduction of the forces of the economy. This proposition is, I believe, original with Dr. Horner, and, I repeat, merits the attention of the surgical members of the profession.

I shall have but few words to say of Dr. Horner as a man.

The preceding narrative, recapitulating the more prominent events of his life, thoughts, actions, and mental idiosyncrasies, will have made you familiar with him.

It was in the qualities that constitute character that lay his strength. He recognized the great truth, that all men are born into this world for the performance of duties; and whoever neglects them lives in violation of that law.

He tasked himself to the highest extent, to improve the faculties that God had given him, and to employ them in the performance of the duties assigned to him. More than this is not in man's power.

He acted, always, under a deep religious conscientiousness of this sense of duty; and was never satisfied that his work was perfect.

From these feelings proceeded his assiduity, fixedness of purpose, concentration in what he engaged in, his limitation to what he was

capable of accomplishing, his order, method, and truthfulness. What he did, was done as a duty, as an end in itself, and not as a means for popularity and fame. Gentlemen, I end as I began. I hold up to you your late professor, teacher, and friend, as an example and for your imitation. If you are endowed with genius and great abilities, by acting on his principle you will render them more effective, you will secure their availability, and give to them their true uses and direction, without which, they may strand the bark they guide on quicksands, or on desert shores, or shipwreck it on sunken rocks.

If you do not possess those mental qualifications, they will gain for you the respect, confidence, esteem of the good and the wise, and insure you success in life. Dr. Horner is to you "A Model Man."

APPENDIX.

It is deemed appropriate to insert in an appendix the following testimonials of respect to Dr. Horner, and other documents corroborative and illustrative of the statements made in the preceding Discourse.

A.

Testimonial of the Medical Faculty of the University of Pennsylvania on the Death of Dr. Horner.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA,
March 18, 1853.

A Committee having been appointed, at a previous meeting, to prepare a testimonial of the feelings entertained by the Medical Faculty towards their late colleague, Dr. William E. Horner, and to convey to his family an expression of condolence on the afflicting bereavement which has been sustained by them; the following was directed to be placed upon the Minutes of the Faculty, and a copy to be transmitted to the family of the deceased.

The Medical Faculty of the University of Pennsylvania are deeply impressed with the loss they have sustained in the death of their late colleague Professor William E. Horner.

The event was not unexpected. It had been foreshadowed by unmistakable signs of declining health and a broken constitution. But the realties of this nature, though anticipated, always come as a shock, and fall as a blow.

It is a duty the Faculty owe to themselves and the deceased, that they should express their feelings upon this occasion, and place on record their testimony to his many admirable qualities and his solid worth. Few possessed ampler opportunities to form a correct estimate of his character; and from his long connection with the school, the valuable services he has rendered by his faithful and accurate instruction, his devotion to his various official duties, the perfect equanimity of his temper and unvaried self-control, his great love of truth and the conscientious rectitude of his principles and actions, he has left behind him an impression of profound respect and esteem that will be as lasting as existence.

The passing away from the scenes and active duties of a useful and well spent life of one endowed with so many excellences and virtues, cannot be viewed with indifference or regarded with apathy. It will leave in his family

mourning and sorrow, and long years of sad remembrance; with his colleagues sincere regrets, and an enduring appreciation of his worth.

The Faculty, in thus expressing their own feelings and strong convictions, would offer their condolence to the family on their bereavement; but if purity of life and unstained honor, an unquestioned integrity, a conscientious discharge of all the various relations of society, and an abiding faith, can insure a happy futurity, they must enjoy the full assurance that he whom they mourn has been gathered to his great reward, "the inheritance of the just."

On behalf of the Faculty,

JOSEPH CARSON, *Dean*.

B.

Resolutions of the Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania on the Death of Dr. Horner.

Resolved, That this Board have received with deep regret the news of the decease of Professor Horner, whose long-continued services and eminent ability and skill have added so much to the welfare, reputation, and usefulness of the University.

Resolved, That Professor Horner's well known devotion to science has been signally manifested by his valuable donation to the Wistar Museum, by means of which the opportunities of instruction in his important department have been perpetuated even after his decease.

Resolved, That the donation so made by the late Dr. Horner be gratefully accepted, and that the "Committee on the Wistar Museum" be instructed to take measures to classify and identify the specimens which are the gifts of Dr. Horner.

Resolved, That the Wistar Museum hereafter be called the Wistar and Horner Museum.

C.

Resolutions of the Medical Faculty of the Pennsylvania College.

PENNSYLVANIA COLLEGE,
March 14, 1858.

At a meeting of the Medical Faculty, held this day, the President having announced the death of Dr. Wm. E. Horner, Professor of Anatomy in the University of Pennsylvania, Drs. Allen and Wiltbank were appointed a committee to express the sense of this Faculty upon the occasion.

The following preamble and resolutions were reported by the committee, and unanimously adopted:—

When, by the dispensation of an allwise Providence, a friend, a citizen, and a co-laborer is removed by death, it is fitting that his departure from

this world should receive from us some manifestation of respect and sorrow. But when one, who has for many years occupied among us a high and responsible position, and by his faithful and untiring devotion to science and the arduous duties of a teacher and physician, has won our respect; who, by his many virtues in public and private life has secured our love and esteem, no manifestation of sorrow can fill the void caused by his departure from among us.

The loss of such a one we are called upon to mourn in the recent death of Dr. Wm. E. Horner. Sincerely deploring the sad event which has called him away, therefore,

Resolved, That we, the Medical Faculty of Pennsylvania College, deeply sympathize with the family and colleagues of the deceased, in this afflictive dispensation of Providence; and that we will ever cherish the memory of our departed friend as an able teacher, a skilful physician, and an honorable and upright man.

Resolved, That, as a token of respect, this Faculty will attend his funeral in a body.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions, with the condolence of the Faculty, be furnished to the family of the deceased, and to the Dean of the Faculty of the University of Pennsylvania.

Extract from the Minutes.

D. GILBERT, *Register*.

W. DARRACH, *President*.

D.

Resolutions of Managers of St. Joseph's Hospital.

Resolved, That the Board of Managers of the Saint Joseph's Hospital have learned with feelings of deep regret, the decease of their much respected associate, the late Dr. William E. Horner, Senior Surgeon in this Institution. Connected, as he has been, with this Board from its organization, and earnestly devoted to the advancement of this Institution, he eminently contributed to place it in its present successful position. With him, the establishment of an hospital whose advantages should be extended to all, on the most liberal principles, without reference to "creed, country, or color," had been for years a most cherished object; and he devoted to its success all the energies of his character, and all the benefits of his valuable experience. With an ardor that never abated—with a perseverance that never wavered, and with an attachment to this infant Institution, that only terminated with his life, he lost no opportunity of advancing its interests, and continued to manifest a deep anxiety in its permanent establishment.

In his decease we deplore the loss of a most earnest and steadfast friend to the Saint Joseph's Hospital, as well as a most zealous and urbane co-operator in all works of Christian charity.

Resolved, That this Board will meet in this place on Wednesday next, at 3 o'clock, to proceed in a body, to attend the funeral of our late and much lamented member, Dr. William E. Horner.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing resolutions be transmitted to the family of the deceased, and that the Rev. F. J. Barbelin and Messrs. Smith, Devereux and Keating, be a committee to convey to them this expression of the high appreciation of his character by the members of this Board, and their regret and condolence in their bereavement.

Extract from the Minutes of the Board of Managers of the Saint Joseph's Hospital.

WM. A. STEEL, *Secretary*.

PHILADELPHIA, March 14, 1858.

E.

Resolutions of the Medical Board of St. Joseph's Hospital.

At a special meeting of the Medical Board of Saint Joseph's Hospital, held this day for the purpose of taking action in regard to the death of their late President, William E. Horner, M. D., who departed this life on the 11th inst., it was unanimously

Resolved, That, in Dr. Horner, this Board have to lament one of the founders of the Hospital, a zealous and efficient advocate of its interests, and its most liberal benefactor, who spared neither his means, his labor, nor his skill in furthering its welfare, and in healing the diseases of its inmates. That in him they also mourn a colleague and a friend, who in all his intercourse was urbane and considerate, and ever prompt to sustain them by his influence and assist them by his counsel; one with whom it was a pleasure to associate, and from whose exemplary candor they could always look for a just appreciation of their own acts.

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be communicated to the Board of Managers of the Hospital, and one also to the family of the deceased as an expression of the sincere sympathy of this Board with them in their sorrowful bereavement.

J. HENRY SMALTZ,

Secretary Medical Board St. Joseph's Hospital.

March 17, 1858.

F.

Invitation of Medical Class to sit for Portrait.

PROFESSOR W. E. HORNER—

DEAR SIR: In presenting the inclosed signification of the wish of the class of the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, allow us to express for them the hope that the proposition may meet with your approba-

tion, and that your health will permit you to aid them in the furtherance of their request.

Be pleased to accept of our best wishes for the future, and believe us, dear sir,

Yours respectfully,

G. P. TERRILL,
F. H. BABBIT,
J. BOARDMAN.

March 2, 1853.

G.

Resolution of Medical Class requesting Dr. Horner's Portrait.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

At a meeting of the Medical Class in the Amphitheatre this afternoon, Mr. Hiester, of Pa., in the Chair, and Mr. Terrill, of Va., acting as Secretary, the following resolution was adopted:—

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to request our Professor of Anatomy, Dr. W. E. Horner, to accord to us the privilege of having his portrait taken, to be placed in the Wistar Museum.

On motion, Messrs. Boardman, of N. Y., Terrill, of Va., and Babbit, of Miss., were appointed on the Committee.

F. M. HIESTER, *Chairman*.

GEO. P. TERRILL, *Secretary*.

H.

The following shows the energy of character, the resoluteness and indomitable industry of Dr. Horner:—

Though laboring under serious cardiac disease, that would have driven most men from active duties, he voluntarily undertook to divide with Professor Gibson the course of Demonstrative Surgery, or Clinical Surgery, as it is often improperly named, assisted by Dr. H. H. Smith. The amount of labor he performed is shown in the following table:—

SESSION 1850—1.

Number of surgical cases before the class	- - - - -	128
“ of operations performed	- - - - -	66
“ “ “ by Dr. Horner	- - - - -	39

SESSION 1851—2.

Number of surgical cases before the class	- - - - -	182
“ of operations performed	- - - - -	78
“ “ “ by Dr. Horner	- - - - -	55

In January, 1853, about ten days before he was compelled to desist from his professional duties, he performed a very difficult and serious capital operation.

I.

I am indebted to Dr. H. H. Smith for the following list of works and papers published by Dr. Wm. E. Horner, and other contributions, some unpublished, he has made to medical science :—

A Treatise on Practical Anatomy, published in 1823, pp. 503, 8vo. 5th ed. Last edited by Dr. H. H. Smith, as the United States Dissector.

A Treatise on Pathological Anatomy, published in 1829, pp. 460, 8vo. 3 editions published.

A Treatise on the Special Anatomy of the Human Body, published in 2 volumes octavo in 1826, pp. 998.

A second edition of the same, pp. 1064, 8vo. ; published in 1830.

The 8th edition, with the title of Special Anatomy and Histology, was published in 1851 ; 2 vols. 8vo. illustrated.

A Plate of the Fœtal Circulation, with References, published about 1828.

The following papers embrace some of his more important contributions. Besides these, he contributed largely to the *American Cyclopædia of Med. and Surgery*, a work which was not completed :—

1. Case of Lumbar Abscess, attended with Artificial Anus, opening from the Colon into the Groin. (7 pages.)

Phil. Journ. Med. and Phys. Sciences, vol. i. p. 141. 1820.

2. On the Treatment of Ruptured Tendo-Achillis, with a Plan of Treatment. (2 pages.)

Phil. Journ. Med. and Phys. Sciences, vol. xii. p. 407. 1826.

3. Cases of Congenital Hydrocephalus, in which the Brain was tapped. (2 pages.)

Amer. Journ. Med. Sciences, vol. iv. p. 530. 1829.

4. Case of Ozæna cured by use of Chloride of Lime. (2 pages.)

Amer. Journ. Med. Sciences, vol. vi. p. 265. 1830.

5. Autopsy of a Case of Death from the Bite of a Rattlesnake. (4 pages.)

Amer. Journ. Med. Sciences, vol. viii. p. 397. 1831.

6. Ligature of the Primitive Carotid Artery (in a Court-Room). (2 pages.)

Amer. Journ. Med. Sciences, vol. x. p. 403. 1832.

7. Case of Hepatic Abscess, in which Tapping was performed before Adhesion of the Liver to the Side had occurred, with the *post-mortem* appearances. (4 pages.)

Amer. Journ. Med. Sciences, vol. xiv. p. 83. 1834.

8. On Immobility or Incomplete Anchylosis of the Jaw.

Amer. Cyclopædia Med. and Surgery.

9. Two papers on Intestinal Mucous Membrane, as seen in Cholera Patients.

Amer. Journ. Med. Sciences of 1834.

10. Amputation at Shoulder-Joint, with a Description of a new Instrument for tying deep-seated Arteries. (3 pages.)

Amer. Journ. Med. Sciences, vol. i. N. S. p. 266. 1841.

11. Experiments on the Vascular Connection of the Mother and Fœtus. (1½ pages.)

Amer. Journ. Med. Sciences, vol. xii. p. 353.

12. On the Direct Communication of the Pulmonary Air Vesicles with the Pulmonary Veins. (3 pages.)

Amer. Journ. Med. Sciences, vol. v. N. S. p. 332. 1843.

13. Cases of Aneurism, showing the Importance of placing a Ligature above and below the Sac. (4 pages.)

Amer. Journ. Med. Sciences, vol. i. N. S. p. 74. 1841.

14. Case of Aneurism of the Femoral Artery; also of the Brachial. (5 pages.)

Amer. Journ. Med. Sciences, vol. iv. p. 332. 1842.

15. On the Treatment of Hemorrhoids by a New Operation. [This is a most valuable and practical paper.] (2 pages.)

Amer. Journ. Med. Sciences, vol. iv. p. 358. 1842.

16. Excision of the Upper Jaw-Bone without incising the Cheek.

Phila. Med. Examiner, vol. vi. N. S. p. 16. 1850.

17. Case of Lacerated Perineum, with an Account of an Operation for its relief.

Amer. Journ. Med. Sciences, vol. xx. N. S. p. 329. 1850.

18. Extirpation of the Parotid Gland.

Med. Examiner.

19. Clinical Report of the Surgical Wards of the Almshouse Hospital in 1837.

Amer. Journ. Med. Sciences, vol. xxi. p. 99. 1837.

20. Surgical Apparatus invented or modified; a valuable modification of Dessault's splint for fracture of the femur, in which the counter-extension is made by the upper end of the inner splint, now generally employed at the St. Joseph's Hospital. Written out, but not published.

21. A Sternum Dilator for aiding in injecting subjects.

Amer. Journ. Med. Sciences, vol. iii. p. 242. 1828.

22. A Bandage Machine or Roller.

Amer. Journ. Med. Sciences, vol. i. p. 479. 1827.

23. Instruments for Dilating Strictures of the Urethra.

24. Nests of Canulæ for Dilating Stricture through the Perineum.

The following have not been published:—

25. An Aneurism Needle.

Very many pathological and anatomical preparations were made by Dr. Horner, and placed in the Museum of the University of Pennsylvania. These preparations were bequeathed to the school. Their value cannot be estimated in money, as time alone can furnish them. But their assessed value (as made by Drs. Leidy and H. H. Smith) is upwards of ten thousand dollars. All his instruments for dissection were also bequeathed the University. His large and valuable library and surgical instruments were bequeathed under restrictions to the St. Joseph's Hospital.

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